

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Black II

Rabee Kiwan

20 September – 23 October 2023

Private Luncheon Reception: Wednesday, 20 September from 1pm to 3 pm (Invite Only)

Opening Reception: Wednesday, 20 September from 5PM

Fann À Porter, The Workshop Dubai



Fann À Porter Dubai is pleased to present *Black II*, a solo exhibition by Syrian artist Rabee Kiwan. Following the success of his previous exhibition, *Black I*, this new exhibition delves into the realm of human emotions and experiences. Set against the backdrop of form, color, and perception, this exhibition is also distinguished by the artist's debut presentation of his ceramic sculptures and plates, adding an entrancing new dimension to his creative oeuvre.

About the Exhibition

With a keen focus on the human face and its myriad emotions, Rabee Kiwan masterfully presents the fusion of external influences and internal memory, giving life to the canvas through his signature visceral strokes of the brush.

In this collection, Kiwan's artistic evolution is palpable. Departing from his earlier project, *Black*, *Black II* introduces an engaging interplay of colors that delicately dance amidst the compositions. Employing tonal balances, color emerges shyly or boldly, framed by intricate lines and black spaces that form the essence of each composition.

The faces, captured in fleeting moments of raw emotion, encapsulate the essence of existence, inviting introspection into existential quandaries while evoking an array of sentiments, often entwined with a sense of disquietude.

Kiwan's ceramics, adorned with the exquisite caress of oxide color glaze on kaolin and indigenous Syrian clay, are hand-painted with enigmatic protagonist figures, further enhancing the intricate interplay of form and narrative.

The exhibition will run from 20 September – 23 October 2023 at Fann À Porter Dubai, gallery space at The Workshop Dubai.



About the Artist

Born in 1984 in Damascus, Syria, Rabee Kiwan studied at the painting department of the Faculty of Fine Arts at the University of Damascus where he graduated from in 2008. He has lived and worked in Beirut and Paris and now divides his time between Dubai and Swaida, a city in southwestern Syria. The main element of his abstract figurative work is the human figure in its various emotional states. Earlier in his career he was inspired by observing reality and trying to imitate what he saw through his works. In recent years, he has preferred abstraction that lends itself better to portraying heightened states of emotional through facial expressions and the human body. He works primarily on canvas in acrylic and oil painting and in mixed media, incorporating various fabrics, paints and other items to create his work.

Kiwan has shown his work at Lab 44 Gallery in Paris, France; Europa in Paris, France; Adiacenze Gallery in Bologna, Italy; Marc Hachem Gallery in Beirut, Lebanon; Kozah Gallery also in Damascus, Syria; World Bank exhibition in Washington DC, USA; the French Cultural Center in Damascus and the Arab Cultural Center in Abu Rumana, Syria.

About Fann À Porter

Fann À Porter is a contemporary art gallery at The Workshop Dubai that represents a diverse selection of emerging international and regional artists.

The gallery aims to nurture the burgeoning and dynamic contemporary art scene through quality exhibitions, non-profit events, auctions, and an active community program.

The gallery's exhibition program includes eight curated exhibitions a year, and features artists working across diverse media.

Fann À Porter has established a series of dialogues and collaborations with curators, writers, governmental entities, and institutions to affirm its commitment to support the long-term development of young contemporary artists from the Middle East.

By hosting a regular public programming including exhibitions, talks, non-profit and charitable initiatives and by participating in fairs, Fann A Porter has established itself in forefront of the region's exciting arts landscape.



Founded in 2006 by Ghada Kunash, Fann À Porter is based at The Workshop, a unique interdisciplinary community space consisting of an art gallery, a sustainable store, design studio, and a cafe. The Workshop aims to engage the audiences, and support the development of Dubai's arts scene through its extensive programs, educational initiatives, and community projects.

For more information and for interviews, and media RSVP, please contact at info@fannaporter.com or visit fannaporter.com.